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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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October 13, 1954

Outline of Report on Pepin County Program with Young Men Given by T. A. Parker September 10, 1954, to Central States Directors at Green Lake, Wis.

In 1944, needs of young farmers became apparent. They wanted

1. Usable information about farming.
2. Something that would create security on their farms.
3. Farm Management information.

Discussed this with older farmers and found many of them in favor of offering a school for young farmers. I then

1. Asked older men to recommend young men.
2. Contacted those recommended.
3. Took up enrollment.
4. Arranged 5 days instruction on fundamentals of farm management and "new things in agriculture."
5. Had young farmers choose a project that would improve their farm businesses.

Kept in contact with these young men.

Did the same thing over year after year.

Group got so large about 4 years ago we had to cut down on the number asked to take part. That winter we had nearly 200 average per day in attendance at the 5 day series of meetings.

Quite a few men came in from surrounding counties. Some of them continue to come. At present, one officer is from Pierce County, and another one from Dunn County. Members of the group can invite anyone they wish.

Number of different men attending the winter series of meetings that we call the Farm Management School:

1945 - 92	1950 - 205
1946 - 65	1951 - 250
1947 - 110	1952 - 165*
1948 - 172	1953 - 134
1949 - 186	1954 - 157

The young men started a farm management club in 1947 and in addition to the 5 day series of meetings each winter, have held 86 regular monthly meetings.

In this 10 year period, 32 different men from the College in 5 or 6 different subject matter fields have appeared 60 different times. In this

*Invitations restricted

same period, 19 men representing such organizations as S.C.S., Farm Credit, as well as some local groups, and including some of our own members, have taken part in the program.

In the 10 year period, we used 56 motion pictures, in addition to slides and motion pictures brought in by Extension speakers.

Some things the young men's Farm Management Group has been actively interested in, and has helped to promote:

Sponsored: Artificial Breeding Unit
 Pasture renovation demonstrations
 Erosion Control Program
 Terracing demonstrations
 Grassland Field Day
 Farm Management Tours
 Dairy Day
 County Brucellosis Vaccination Program
 Use of legumes for silage
 County Grassland Contest
 100 bushel Corn Yields
 Alfalfa Program
 Home Fruit Project
 Home Grounds Improvement
 Farmstead Planning

A total of 561 young farmers have taken part.

When this type of instruction was started, Pepin County was one of the low income spots in the state, with low crop yields, low livestock returns, and little erosion control work done.

At present, the average is much better. Income increased 50% from 1944 through 1949. Some of our young farmers are getting quite good incomes, with gross sales of meat, milk, eggs and cash crops totaling up to more than \$150 per crop acre in some cases.



